

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

These claims replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the above-referenced application.

1           1.       (Currently Amended) A connector sleeve, comprising:  
2           ~~means for receiving a first end of a tubing assembly junction;~~  
3           means for ~~engaging~~ encompassing a portion of a tubing assembly junction having a first  
4 end proximal to a first end of the sleeve and a substantial portion of a first tube proximal to the  
5 first end of the tubing assembly junction, the means for encompassing a portion of the tubing  
6 assembly junction enabling observation the tubing assembly junction within the length of the  
7 sleeve while securing the first tube to the tubing assembly junction; and  
8           means for encompassing a portion of a second tube proximal to a second end of the  
9 tubing assembly junction, the means for encompassing a portion of the second tube enabling  
10 observation of the second tube within the length of the sleeve while securing the second tube to  
11 the tubing assembly junction  
12           ~~means for receiving a second end of a tubing assembly junction; and~~  
13           ~~means for securely coupling the tubing assembly junction wherein forces applied along~~  
14 ~~the longitudinal axis of the tubing assembly do not result in disengagement of the tubing~~  
15 ~~assembly at the junction.~~

1           2.       (Currently Amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the means for ~~engaging~~  
2 encompassing a portion of a tubing assembly junction comprises a housing with an aperture.

1           3.       (Currently Amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the means for ~~receiving a~~  
2 ~~first end~~ encompassing a portion of a second tube comprises a housing with a slot.

1           4.       (Canceled)

1           5.       (Currently Amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the means for ~~securely~~  
2 ~~coupling~~ securing comprises a tapered inner surface of the housing.

1           6.   (Currently Amended) The connector of claim 1, wherein the means for ~~securely~~  
2 ~~coupling~~ securing comprises a restrictor.

1           7.   (Canceled)

1           8.   (Currently Amended) The connector of claim 3, wherein the slot is substantially  
2 parallel with the longitudinal axis of the connector sleeve.

1           9.   (Original) The connector of claim 6, wherein the restrictor comprises a plate.

1           10. (Original) The connector of claim 6, wherein the restrictor comprises a tab.

1           11. (Currently Amended) The connector of claim 8, wherein the housing forms a slot  
2 having a width that is smaller than the outer diameter of ~~an exit~~ the second tube of the tubing  
3 assembly.

1           12. (Original) The connector of claim 9, wherein the plate forms an inlet port having a  
2 width that is smaller than the outer diameter of an inlet tube of the tubing assembly.

1           13. (Original) The connector of claim 9, wherein the plate forms an inlet port having a  
2 width that is smaller than the outer diameter of a nipple of a coupler of the tubing assembly.

1           14. (Original) The connector of claim 10, wherein the tab is biased into the aperture of  
2 the housing.

1           15-19. (Canceled)

1           20. (Currently Amended) A connector sleeve, comprising:  
2           ~~a housing having an inlet port, an outlet port, and a tapered inner surface, wherein the~~  
3 ~~housing is configured to closely surround and~~ a housing comprising:  
4           a first portion that includes an aperture along the longitudinal axis of the sleeve  
5 and a restrictor that intrudes from the housing, the first portion configured to encompass a  
6 portion of a tubing assembly junction and contact a first end of a the tubing assembly junction;  
7 and  
8           a second portion that includes a slot along the longitudinal axis of the sleeve and a  
9 tapered inner surface, the second portion configured to closely surround and contact a second end  
10 of the tubing assembly junction ~~a restrictor fixedly attached to the housing, the restrictor~~  
11 ~~configured to engage a second end of the tubing junction.~~

1           21. (New) The connector sleeve of claim 20, further comprising:  
2           a transverse wall forming an inlet port proximal to a first end of the sleeve, the inlet port  
3 configured to substantially surround a portion of the circumference of a first tube coupled to the  
4 tubing assembly junction.

1           22. (New) The connector sleeve of claim 21, wherein the transverse wall contacts the  
2 outer surface of the first tube.

1           23. (New) The connector sleeve of claim 21, wherein the inlet port has a width that is  
2 smaller than the outer diameter of a nipple of a coupler of the tubing assembly.

1           24. (New) The connector sleeve of claim 20, wherein the restrictor comprises a  
2 transverse wall that engages the first tube.

1           25. (New) The connector sleeve of claim 20, wherein the restrictor comprises at least  
2 one tab substantially parallel to the longitudinal axis of the connector sleeve.

1           26. (New) The connector sleeve of claim 24, wherein the at least one tab is biased into  
2           the aperture of the housing.

1           27. (New) The connector sleeve of claim 20, further comprising:  
2           an outlet port proximal to a second end of the sleeve, the outlet port configured to  
3           substantially surround a portion of the circumference of a second tube coupled to the tubing  
4           assembly junction.